

**House of Representatives  
Trade and Economic Development  
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2004**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>COMMITTEE</b>	<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>TYPE</b>
June 16	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	Joint Meeting with Commerce & Labor: Offshore Outsourcing	Work Session
July	Half Day	Greater Seattle Area	Full Committee	Roundtable on Economic Development for a Diverse and Prosperous Washington.  Joint with local chambers of commerce and the economic development councils.	Work Session
Early August	Half Day	Yakima or Spokane	Full Committee	Roundtable on Economic Development for a Diverse and Prosperous Washington.  Held jointly with the local chambers of commerce and economic development councils.	Work Session
September 20-21	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	Discussion Regarding the Priorities of Government and Economic Development Programs.	Work Session
September 22	All Day	Olympia	Full Committee	Economic Development Programs for a Diverse and Prosperous Washington: 1. Department of Community, Trade & Economic Development briefing on 2005-07 Budget and Priorities. 2. Staff Presentation of Washington economic development strategies and programs, funding history, and alternative economic development strategies. 3. Joint Legislative Audit and Review briefing on Implementation of Performance Measures at the Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development. 4. Committee discussion of Priorities of Government and Economic Development.	Work Session

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	SUBJECT	TYPE
December 2-3	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	Trade Policy Update: 1. Staff presentation on trade negotiations and agreements. 2. Report from the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Trade Policy. 3. Role of State Trade Representative discussion. 4. Role of the Committee in shaping Washington's response to trade issues. 5. Possible Trade Related Legislation.  Priorities of Government and Economic Development Update.	Work Session

**Project Title: Offshore Outsourcing**

**Project Goal:**

To examine "offshore outsourcing" of work performed under state contracts, international trade agreements applicable to this practice, and legislative and other alternatives for addressing this practice.

**Project Description:**

"Offshore outsourcing" is a term sometimes used to describe the practice of contracting with individuals or companies in foreign countries to perform certain work.

Offshore outsourcing of work performed under state contracts was the subject of nearly a half a dozen bills introduced in Washington during the 2004 legislative session, none of which passed the Legislature. Some bills would have required studies of such outsourcing, while other would have prohibited such outsourcing. (See EHCR 4419, House version of ESHB 2459, HB 2405, HB 2768, and SHB 3187). According to the National Conference of State Legislatures, similar legislation was introduced in 26 other states in 2004.

During the 2004 interim, the House Trade & Economic Development and the House Commerce & Labor Committees will examine:

- Work performed under certain state contracts at locations outside the United States, including personal services contracts, purchased services contracts, and public works contracts, and any subcontracts under such contracts;
- Efforts, if any, to measure work performed under certain state contracts, and any subcontracts under such contracts, at locations outside the United States;
- The extent to which state contracts performed at locations outside the United States involve solicitation or disclosure of personal information;
- The applicability of international trade agreements to state procurement policies;
- The extent to which the process of making commitments under international trade agreements and the exceptions in such agreements are adequate to protect legislative authority over state procurement, including domestic preferences; and
- The economic benefits of awarding state contracts to Washington companies.

**Number & Type of Meetings:** 1

**Completion Date:** December 2004

**Staff Assigned:** Tracey Taylor/Jill Reinmuth/Chris Cordes

**Project Title: Economic Development for a Diverse and Prosperous Washington**

**Project Goal:**

To understand the current economic development needs for Washington and to develop priorities to promote a healthy economy.

**Project Description:**

This project will educate the committee on economic development programs, tools and needs of Washington state in preparation for the 2005 session and building upon the committee's small business forums from last interim.

The committee will review the state programs assisting businesses, including reviewing the programs and funding levels at the Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development. The committee will also review alternative economic development strategies, including what is being done at the local level in Washington and what is being implemented in other states. The work of Washington's Economic Development Commission and the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee will be monitored.

In addition, two roundtables, to be held in conjunction with the local chambers of commerce and economic development councils, will be held. One will take place in Eastern Washington and one will take place in the Greater Seattle Area. Among the issues that may be covered at each roundtable:  
--Strategies to diversify local and regional economies. This may include reviewing efforts to promote and attract light manufacturing, to build a NASCAR-ready racetrack, to grow the state's biotech cluster and to review the work of business incubators.

--Working with state government.

--Access to capital, including the creation of a more robust venture capital pool for small businesses.

--Balancing the needs of rural and urban Washington. This may include identifying the different economic needs of rural and urban communities and developing strategies for implementing state programs.

The Committee will apply its knowledge by reviewing the Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development programs and funding levels and applying the Priorities of Government in formulating their 2005 legislative agenda to address the diverse needs of Washington's communities.

**Number & Type of Meetings:** 5

**Completion Date:** December 31, 2004

**Staff Assigned:** Tracey Taylor

**Project Title: International Trade Developments**

**Project Goal:**

Stay current with trade policy issues and developments.

**Project Description:**

International trade negotiations and agreements are playing a larger role in a state's policymaking. Washington is one of the most trade dependent states in the nation; therefore, the effects of these agreements are often seen by our legislature first. Whether it is the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) after a decade or the newly negotiated U.S.-Australia Trade Agreement, there is a constant stream of information and analysis. The Committee will continue to remain current in trade developments by holding a work session on trade negotiations and agreements in December. The work session will include a staff update on trade negotiations and agreements, a discussion about the role of the state trade representative, a discussion regarding the Committee's role in shaping Washington's response to trade issues and possible legislation.

**Number & Type of Meetings:** 1

**Completion Date:** December 31, 2004

**Staff Assigned:** Tracey Taylor